



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **SPOKANE MAN SENTENCED IN INTERNATIONAL INTERNET CHILD PORNOGRAPHY SCHEME WITH FRESNO TIES**

FRESNO, Calif. – A 44-year-old man from Spokane, Washington, was sentenced here today to 210 months in prison for his role in a worldwide conspiracy to sexually exploit children and distribute photographs of the exploitation over the Internet.

Harry Tschernetzki pleaded guilty in March 2004 to one count of sexually exploiting children and 16 counts of receiving and distributing child pornography. The charges stem from an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) into an international child pornography ring where many of the perpetrators, including Tschernetzki, traded explicit images of their own children.

Earlier this month, Clovis chiropractor Lloyd Alan Emmerson, 47, was sentenced to 30 years in prison for his role in the scheme. All told, some 20 defendants from the United States and Europe were indicted here in August 2002 in connection with this case. With the exception of one individual, whose case was severed from the rest, the 15 defendants from the United States have all pleaded guilty or been convicted after a jury trial.

The joint investigation involving ICE and the Clovis Police Department began after ICE received a tip from authorities in Denmark.

The case is part of ICE's Operation Predator, a comprehensive initiative aimed at those who prey on and exploit children, including human traffickers, international sex tourists, Internet pornographers, and foreign national predators whose crimes make them deportable. More than 400 of the 5,000 child sex offenders arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as part of this ongoing international initiative have occurred in northern California.

Additional information about Operation Predator is available on the Web at [www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov). ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

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